

ABSTRACT**BORONIC ACID THROMBIN INHIBITORS**

A thrombin inhibitor selected from boronic acids of formula (I), and salts, prodrugs and prodrug salts thereof: wherein X is H (to form NH₂) or an amino-protecting group; aa¹ is an amino acid residue having a side chain selected from formula (A) and (B)-(CO)_a-(CH₂)_b-D_c-(CH₂)_d-E (A), -(CO)_a-(CH₂)_b-D_c-C_e(E¹)(E²)(E³) wherein E¹, E² and E³ are 5-6 membered saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbyl rings, or one of E¹, E² and E³ is hydrogen and the other two are a said hydrocarbyl ring, E, E¹, E² and E³ optionally being halogenated when saturated and mandatorily being halogenated when unsaturated, a particular halogen being fluorine; aa² is a residue of an amino acid which binds to the thrombin S2 subsite; and R⁹ is a straight chain alkyl group interrupted by one or more ether linkages or R⁹ is -(CH₂)_m W and W is -OH or halogen.